

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 STATE 081011
ORIGIN EB-08

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 CAB-02 CIAE-00 COME-00
DODE-00 DOTE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 FAA-00 L-03 /034 R

DRAFTED BY EB/OA/AVP:GGGRIFFITHS:LR
APPROVED BY EB/OA:MHSTYLES
EB/OA/AVP:AJWHITE
EB/OA/AN:ARIMAS
ARA/ECP:DTAHER
CAB/CCOLDREN

-----034281 300421Z /62

P 292245Z MAR 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY BOGOTA PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 081011

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EAIR, CO

SUBJECT: AVIANCA APPLICATION TO AMEND ITS OPERATING PERMIT

1. SUMMARY. DEPARTMENT BECOMING CONCERNED OVER GOC LACK OF MOVEMENT ON BRANIFF APPLICATION TO CARRY LOCAL TRAFFIC ON FLIGHTS FROM BOGOTA TO BUENOS AIRES AND SANTIAGO. CAB HAS APPROVED THE AEROCONDOR APPLICATION, AND THE AVIANCA APPLICATION NOW IS READY FOR SUBMISSION TO THE PRESIDENT FOR APPROVAL. HOWEVER, UNLESS GOC CAN ASSURE US THAT IT IS PREPARED TO MOVE FAVORABLY AND EXPEDITIOUSLY ON THE BRANIFF APPLICATION, DEPARTMENT IS CONSIDERING RECOMMENDING THAT A STAY BE PLACED ON THE AVIANCA APPLICATION. END SUMMARY.

2. DURING NEGOTIATIONS RE FUEL PRICE ISSUE, DEPARTMENT INDICATED THAT IT WAS PREPARED TO URGE THE CAB TO MOVE
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 STATE 081011

EXPEDITIOUSLY ON THE AEROCONDOR AND AVIANCA APPLICATIONS IF FUEL PRICE ISSUE WERE RESOLVED SATISFACTORILY, AEROCONDOR APPLICATION HAS SINCE BEEN APPROVED BY THE CAB (SEE STATE 68966). AVIANCA APPLICATION TO AMEND ITS FOREIGN AIR CARRIER PERMIT TO ADD LONDON AS AN INTERMEDIATE POINT ON ROUTE 2 OF ITS PERMIT HAS JUST

BEEN APPROVED BY CAB AND ORDER HAS BEEN SENT FORWARD TO PRESIDENT FOR APPROVAL. DEPARTMENT RECEIVED COPY OF BOARD'S ORDER ON MARCH 21 FOR ITS COMMENTS. ABSENT ANY ADVERSE COMMENTS, FINAL APPROVAL OF AVIANCA'S APPLICATION SHOULD COME APPROXIMATELY MID-APRIL.

3. HOWEVER, DEPARTMENT BECOMING INCREASINGLY CONCERNED OVER SEEMING GOC INSISTENCE THAT BOTH AEROCONDOR AND AVIANCA APPLICATIONS MUST HAVE FINAL APPROVALS BEFORE GOC WILL EVEN BEGIN TO CONSIDER BRANIFF APPLICATION. PREVIOUS DEPARTMENT REQUESTS FOR SIMULTANEOUS CONSIDERATION THESE APPLICATIONS APPARENTLY HAVE BEEN IGNORED BY GOC. ALL MOVEMENT TO DATE HAS COME FROM USG; ONE COLOMBIAN APPLICATION HAS RECEIVED FINAL APPROVAL, AND THE OTHER APPLICATION HAS RECEIVED SUBSTANTIVE APPROVAL. IN THIS CONTEXT, DEPARTMENT FEELS IT INCUMBENT UPON GOC TO SHOW MOVEMENT AND INDICATE IT WILL FAVORABLY AND EXPEDITIOUSLY CONSIDER THE BRANIFF APPLICATION. WITHOUT SOME POSITIVE SIGNAL FROM GOC RE THE BRANIFF APPLICATION, DEPARTMENT MAY HAVE TO RECOMMEND THAT FINAL APPROVAL OF THE AVIANCA APPLICATION BE HELD IN ABEYANCE. SUCH A STAY COULD BE INDEFINITE, AS THERE IS NO STATUTORY TIME LIMIT WITHIN WHICH SUCH APPROVAL MUST BE GRANTED.

4. ACTION REQUESTED: EMBASSY REQUESTED INFORM APPROPRIATE GOC OFFICIALS THAT CAB HAS SENT A PROPOSED ORDER TO THE
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 STATE 081011

PRESIDENT DATED MARCH 17 RECOMMENDING APPROVAL OF THE AVIANCA APPLICATION. EMBOFF SHOULD ALSO DISCUSS USG CONCERNS OVER LACK OF MOVEMENT ON BRANIFF APPLICATION. IN DISCUSSING THIS ISSUE, EMBASSY SHOULD EMPHASIZE THAT USG EARNESTLY DESIRES TO HAVE AVIATION RELATIONS BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES RETURN TO THEIR TRADITIONALLY FRIENDLY STATUS AFTER THE TEMPORARY PROBLEMS OF THE FUEL PRICE ISSUE. USG HAS SHOWED ITS GOOD FAITH ON THE COLOMBIAN AIRLINES' APPLICATIONS AND WOULD HOPE THAT GOC WILL RECIPROCATATE ON THE BRANIFF APPLICATION. EMBASSY SHOULD USE ITS DISCRETION IN HOW TO CONVEY LINKAGE BETWEEN GOC MOVEMENT ON BRANIFF APPLICATION AND USG FINAL APPROVAL OF AVIANCA APPLICATION. IT SHOULD BE MADE CLEAR TO GOC, HOWEVER, THAT WE DO SEE SUCH A LINKAGE.

5. FYI ONLY. DEPARTMENT WELL AWARE THAT AVIANCA STILL SMARTING FROM RESOLUTION OF FUEL PRICE ISSUE, AND WE DO NOT WISH TO INCREASE THEIR BLOOD PRESSURE ANY FURTHER. ON OTHER HAND, WE DO NOT WISH TO LEAVE BRANIFF APPLICATION UNSUPPORTED. IT IS ENTIRELY CONCEIVABLE THAT AVIANCA MIGHT RELISH AN OPPORTUNITY TO USE ITS INFLUENCE IN

COLOMBIA TO CAUSE DIFFICULTIES FOR THE BRANIFF
APPLICATION. ABSENT A GOC COMMITMENT, THIS TYPE OF
OPPORTUNITY WOULD BE AVAILABLE TO AVIANCA. COOPER

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLICIES, AIR SCHEDULES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 29 mar 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978STATE081011
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: GGGRIFFITHS:LR
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780137-0651
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780312/aaaaajnt.tel
Line Count: 119
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: beb8d1ba-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN EB
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 22 jun 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3154799
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: AVIANCA APPLICATION TO AMEND ITS OPERATING PERMIT
TAGS: EAIR, CO, US, BRANIFF, AVIANCA
To: BOGOTA
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/beb8d1ba-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014